

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT – 23 JULY 2015

PROPOSED REVISED SPEED LIMIT B4020 CARTERTON AND SHILTON

Report by Deputy Director for Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Introduction

1. This report presents an objection received from Thames Valley Police to one part of proposals to amend the speed limit on the B4020 Carterton to Burford Road to reflect new development adjacent to this road at the north end of Carterton.

Background

2. The proposals (shown at Annex 1) comprise the extension of the existing 30mph speed limit to a point approximately 140m north of the new junction, and north of this point, the introduction of a 40mph speed limit to meet the existing 40mph speed limit in the vicinity of the B4020 Shilton Dip crossroads, a distance of 570m.

Consultation

3. Formal consultation on the proposals was carried out between 8 April 2015 and 8 May 2015. A public notice was advertised in the Witney & West Oxford Gazette on 8 April and displayed for public view (along with full consultation documents) at County Hall and at Carterton Library. An email was also sent to statutory consultees (including Thames Valley Police, the Fire & Rescue and Ambulance services), Parish & Town Councils and local County Councillors.
4. One objection has been received from Thames Valley Police who raise no objection to the proposed extension of the 30mph limit to include the new junction, but considered that the replacement of the existing national speed limit north of the 30mph limit to meet the existing 40mph limit at Shilton Dip was unjustified taking account of the character of the road and could compromise the effectiveness of the 40mph limit at Shilton Dip. A copy of the letter of objection is available in the Members' Resource Centre.

Response

5. The Department for Transport guidelines on setting speed limits notes that 40mph limits on rural roads 'should be considered where there are many bends, junctions or accesses, substantial development, a strong environmental or landscape reason, or where there are a considerable number of vulnerable road users'.

6. The relevant length of the B4020 is of moderate standard in terms of its alignment, with one junction with a public highway and two other accesses. No injury accidents on this length were reported in the 5-years ending 31 May 2015. The technical case for a 40mph speed limit is, therefore, judged to be a little marginal and it is accepted that the current 40mph limit provided to improve safety at the Shilton Dip crossroads helps highlight the hazards at this unusual and difficult junction. In view of this it is suggested that the implementation of the 40mph limit proposal be deferred pending a further evaluation of needs. It should be noted that the cost of implementing a change would, however, then fall on the County Council and also that if not implemented by April 2017 a further consultation on the proposal would be required.

How the Project supports LTP3 Objectives

7. The proposals would help reduce the risk of accidents and improve road safety.

Financial and Staff Implications (including Revenue)

8. The costs will be met from the developers of the land adjacent to the B4020. Maintenance of the signs will be met from the highways maintenance budget.
9. The appraisal of the proposals and consultation has been undertaken by E&E officers as part of their normal duties.

RECOMMENDATION

10. **The Cabinet Member for the Environment is RECOMMENDED to:**

- a) **approve the extension of the 30mph speed limit on B4020 as advertised;**
- b) **defer implementation of the proposed 40mph limit on B4020 pending a further evaluation of need, including changed usage of the road arising from the adjacent development.**

MARK KEMP

Deputy Director of Environment & Economy (Commercial)

Background papers:

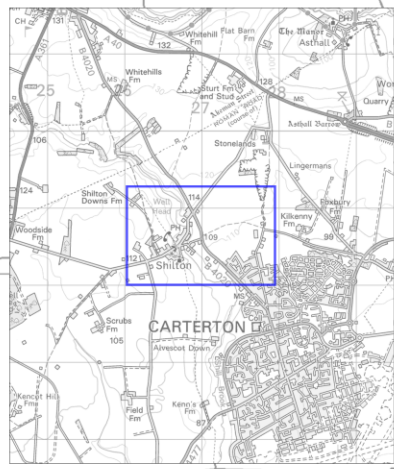
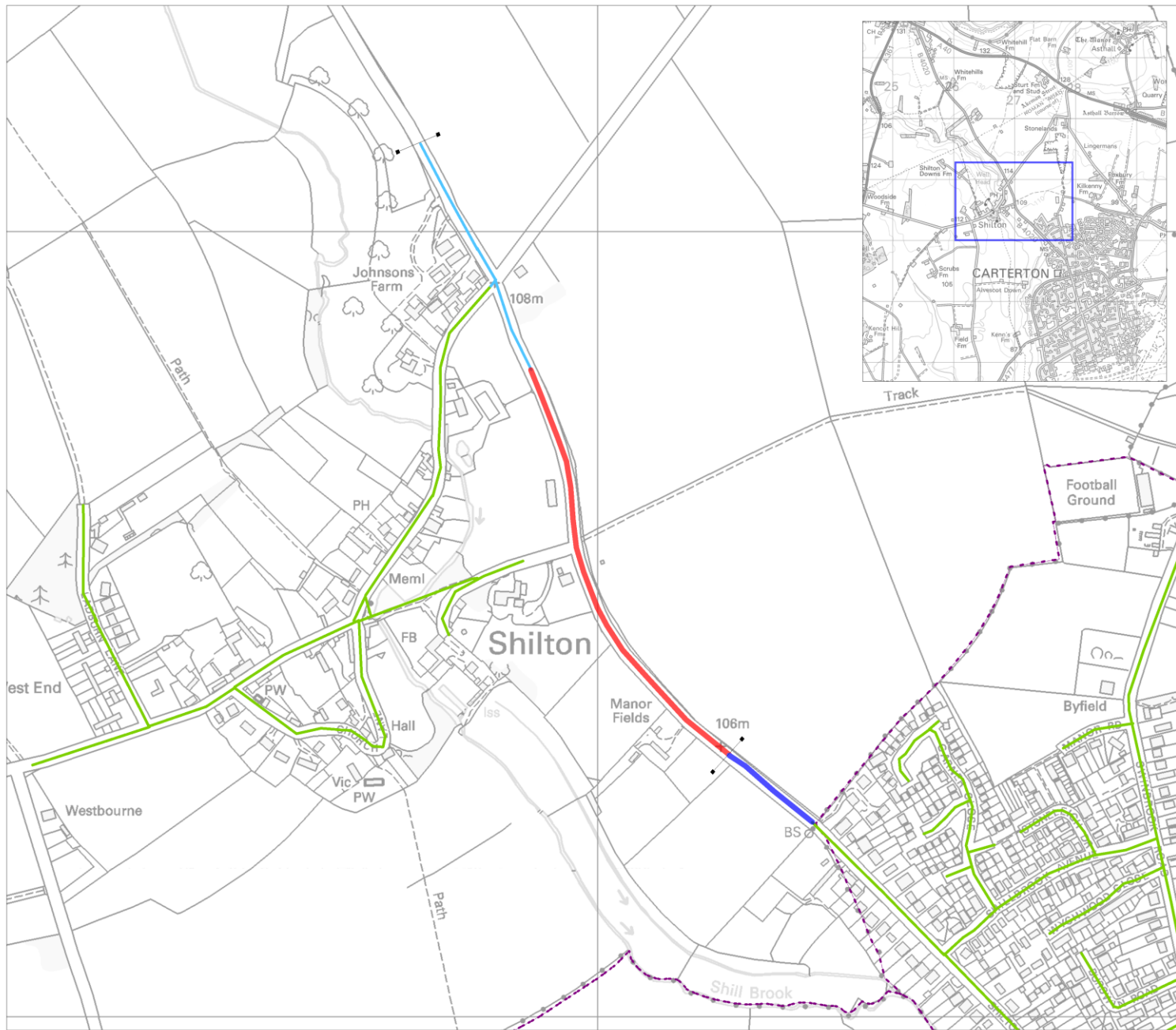
Plan of proposed speed limits

Letter of objection from Thames Valley Police

Contact Officers:

Owen Jenkins

July 2015



Drawing No. Revision 1

- Proposed 40mph speed limit in place of existing NSL
- Proposed 30mph speed limit in place of existing NSL
- Existing 30mph speed limit (to remain)
- Existing 40mph speed limit (to remain)
- Speed limit change point
- - - Parish Boundary
- Site Location

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Oxfordshire County Council. © Crown Copyright and database rights 2013. 100023343

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
 Mark Kemp
 Deputy Director - Commercial
 Environment and Economy
 Oxfordshire County Council
 Speedwell House
 Speedwell Street
 Oxford
 OX1 1NE
 Tel: (01865) 815700
 Fax: (01865) 241577

**CABINET MEMBER
 FOR ENVIRONMENT
 23 JULY 2015**

**B4020 CARTERTON to SHILTON
 PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT CHANGES**

Drawing Status		
Drawn by:	Checked by:	Approved by:
CJM		
Date drawn:	Date checked:	Date approved:
02/07/2015		

Drawing No. Revision 1